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Convention against Torture
and Other Cruel, Inhuman
or Degrading Treatment
or Punishment

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COMMITTEE AGAINST TORTURE
Fourteenth session
Geneva, 24 April-5 May 1995

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ANNOTATIONS

Note by the Secretary-General

1. The fourteenth session of the Committee against Torture will be held at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 24 April to 5 May 1995. The first meeting of the session will be convened on Monday, 24 April 1995, at 10.30 a.m.

2. In accordance with rule 6 of the rules of procedure, the Secretary-General has prepared, in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee, the attached provisional agenda for the fourteenth session. Annotations to the provisional agenda are also attached.

3. Pursuant to rule 31 of the rules of procedure, the meetings of the Committee will be held in public unless the Committee decides otherwise or it appears from the relevant provisions of the Convention that the meetings should be held in private.

4. The attention of the States parties is drawn, in particular, to the annotations to item 5, which contain the tentative timetable for the consideration of reports at the fourteenth session. In accordance with rule 66 of the rules of procedure, representatives of States parties are invited to attend the meetings of the Committee when their reports are examined.

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PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda.

2. Solemn declaration by a member of the Committee appointed under article 17, paragraph 6, of the Convention.

3. Organizational and other matters.

4. Submission of reports by States parties under article 19 of the Convention.

5. Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 19 of the Convention.

6. Consideration of information received under article 20 of the Convention.

7. Consideration of communications under article 22 of the Convention.

8. Future meetings of the Committee.

9. Action by the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session:

   (a) Annual report submitted by the Committee under article 24 of the Convention;

   (b) Effective implementation of international instruments on human rights, including reporting obligations under international instruments on human rights.

10. Amendments to the rules of procedure of the Committee.

11. Annual report of the Committee on its activities.

ANNOTATIONS

1. Adoption of the agenda

Under rule 8 of the rules of procedure, the first item on the agenda of any session shall be the adoption of the agenda, except for the election of officers when required under rule 15. In accordance with rule 9, during a session the Committee may revise the agenda and may, as appropriate, defer or delete items; only urgent and important items may be added to the agenda.

2. Solemn declaration by a member of the Committee appointed under article 17, paragraph 6, of the Convention

Following the resignation of Mr. Hassib Ben Ammar from the Committee and in accordance with article 17, paragraph 6, of the Convention and rule 13 of the rules of procedure, Mr. Habib Slim, a national of Tunisia, has been appointed as a member of the Committee to serve for the remainder of the term of Mr. Ben Ammar which will expire on 31 December 1995. In accordance with rule 14 of the rules of procedure, the newly appointed member will make the following solemn declaration:

> "I solemnly declare that I will perform my duties and exercise my powers as a member of the Committee against Torture honourably, faithfully, impartially and conscientiously."

3. Organizational and other matters

Under this item, the Committee may wish to consider its programme of work for the session, as well as any other matter concerning the modalities of discharging its functions under the Convention.

4. Submission of reports by States parties under article 19 of the Convention

It may be recalled that in accordance with rule 65 of its rules of procedure and the Committee's decisions, the Secretary-General sends reminders automatically to those States parties whose initial reports are more than 12 months overdue and subsequent reminders every 6 months. In the case of reports which are more than three years overdue, the Chairman of the Committee, at its request, discusses the question of reporting obligations with the representatives of the States parties concerned or addresses a letter on the subject to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, as appropriate. In addition, the Committee includes information on non-compliance by States parties with their reporting obligations in its annual report to the States parties and to the General Assembly.

The situation with regard to overdue reports as at 15 February 1995 is as follows:

State party	Date on which the report was due
Initial reports	
Uganda	25 June 1988
Togo	17 December 1988
Guyana	17 June 1989
Brazil	27 October 1990
Guinea	8 November 1990
Somalia	22 February 1991
Malta	12 October 1991
Venezuela	27 August 1992
Croatia	7 October 1992
Yugoslavia	9 October 1992
Estonia	19 November 1992
Yemen	4 December 1992
Bosnia and Herzegovina	5 March 1993
Benin	10 April 1993
Latvia	13 May 1993
Seychelles	3 June 1993
Cape Verde	3 July 1993
Cambodia	13 November 1993
Burundi	19 March 1994
Slovakia	27 May 1994
Slovenia	14 August 1994
Antigua and Barbuda	17 August 1994
Armenia	12 October 1994
Costa Rica	10 December 1994
Sri Lanka	1 February 1995
Second periodic reports	
Afghanistan	25 June 1992
Belize	25 June 1992
Bulgaria	25 June 1992
Cameroon	25 June 1992
Denmark	25 June 1992
France	25 June 1992
Philippines	25 June 1992
Russian Federation	25 June 1992
Senegal	25 June 1992
Uganda	25 June 1992
Uruguay	25 June 1992
Austria	27 August 1992
Luxembourg	28 October 1992
Togo	17 December 1992
Colombia	6 January 1993
Guyana	17 June 1993
Peru	5 August 1993
Turkey	31 August 1993
Tunisia	22 October 1993
China	2 November 1993

State party	Date on which the report was due
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	6 January 1994
Portugal	10 March 1994
Poland	24 August 1994
Australia	6 September 1994
Finland	28 September 1994
Algeria	11 October 1994
Brazil	27 October 1994
Guinea	8 November 1994
New Zealand	8 January 1995
Guatemala	3 February 1995

By decision of the Committee, Uganda, Togo, Guyana, Brazil and Guinea were requested to submit both the initial and the second periodic reports in one document.

5. Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 19 of the Convention

A tentative timetable for the consideration of reports at the fourteenth session, prepared by the Secretary-General in consultation with the Chairman and subject to approval by the Committee, is given below:

Tuesday, 25 April 1995

Netherlands: second periodic report CAT/C/25/Add. 1 and 2

Wednesday, 26 April 1995

Mauritius: initial report CAT/C/24/Add.1

Thursday, 27 April 1995

Italy: second periodic report CAT/C/25/Add.4

Friday, 28 April 1995

Guatemala: initial report CAT/C/12/Add.5

Monday, 1 May 1995

Jordan: initial report CAT/C/16/Add.5

6. Consideration of information under article 20 of the Convention

In accordance with the provisions of chapter XVII of its rules of procedure, the Committee will consider under this item information which is, or appears to be, submitted for its consideration under article 20 of the Convention.

In accordance with the provisions of article 20, paragraph 5, of the Convention and rules 72 and 73 of the rules of procedure, all documents and proceedings of the Committee relating to its functions under article 20 of the Convention shall be confidential and all the meetings concerning its proceedings under that article shall be closed.

7. Consideration of communications under article 22 of the Convention

In accordance with the provisions of chapter XIX of its rules of procedure, the Committee will consider under this item communications which are, or appear to be, submitted to it under article 22 of the Convention.

In accordance with article 22, paragraph 6, of the Convention and rule 101, paragraph 1, of the rules of procedure, meetings of the Committee or its subsidiary bodies during which communications under article 22 of the Convention are examined shall be closed.

8. Future meetings of the Committee

In accordance with rule 2 of its rules of procedure, the Committee shall normally hold two regular sessions each year. Regular sessions of the Committee shall be convened at dates decided by the Committee in consultation with the Secretary-General, taking into account the calendar of conferences as approved by the General Assembly.

As the calendar of meetings held within the framework of the United Nations is submitted by the Secretary-General on a biennial basis for the approval of the Committee on Conferences and the General Assembly, the Committee may wish to take decisions under this item on the schedule of its meetings to be held in 1996 and 1997.

9. Action by the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session

(a) Annual report submitted by the Committee against Torture under article 24 of the Convention;*

(b) Effective implementation of international instruments on human rights, including reporting obligations under international instruments on human rights.

Under this item, the Committee will have before it General Assembly resolutions 49/177 and 49/178 as well as the relevant resolutions adopted by the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-first session.

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* Official records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth session, Supplement No. 44 (A/49/44).

10. Amendments to the rules of procedure of the Committee

Under this item, the Committee will have before it a note by the Secretariat providing a brief analysis of the procedural issues discussed by the Committee at its tenth, eleventh, twelfth and thirteenth sessions which in the Committee's view require amendments to its rules of procedure (CAT/C/3/Rev.1), some suggestions for the revision of the rules, as well as the text of the amendments already adopted by the Committee at its thirteenth session.

11 Annual report of the Committee on its activities

In accordance with article 24 of the Convention, the Committee shall submit an annual report on its activities to the States parties and to the General Assembly.

At its second session, the Committee decided to adopt its annual report at the end of its spring session, for appropriate transmission to the General Assembly during the same calendar year. Accordingly, the annual report to be submitted to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session will include the activities of the Committee at its thirteenth and fourteenth sessions.